

## July Diary

- Sat 2 Concert for Ukraine** Pontesbury Public Hall 7:30.
- Sun 3 Viva Opera!** Marches Choir concert. Walcot Hall.
- Mon 4 Parish Council planning meeting** The Pavilion 6:30.
- Fri 8 History of Hanwood and Cruckton: Now and Then**  
A talk by Alan Walklett. Cruckton Village Hall 7:00.  
£5 incl. cheese and wine.
- Sat 9 Children's painting workshop** for Earls Hill celebrations. Pavilion 10:00 – 12:30. See page 3.
- Repair Café opens** St George's Church 10:00 – 2:00. See page 3.
- Sale of child and baby items** Pontesbury Public Hall 12:00 – 3:00. See page 9 for details.
- Mon 11 Pontesbury WI** Pontesbury Public Hall 2:00. Visitors welcome.
- Rea Valley Food Bank** Special meeting calling for volunteers. Pontesbury Baptist Church 7:00. See front page for details.
- Parish Council meeting** Habberley Village Hall 7:30.
- Tue 12 Earls Hill Painting Exhibition hanging day** See page 3 for details.
- Pontesbury Women's Club** Visitors welcome. Public Hall 7:30.
- Wed 13 Probus Club** The White Horse, Pulverbatch 12:45.
- Thur 14 Rhyme Time** Pontesbury Library 2:00.
- Sat 16 Pontesford and Earls Hill Reserve celebrations** See page 8.
- Wed 20 Recycling Information Event** Pavilion 4:00 – 6:30. See page 9 for details.
- Sat 23 Party in the Park** Playing Fields, Bishops Castle 12 noon – 11:30.
- Wed 27 Flower Club** Westbury Village Hall 7:30.
- Thur 28 Restoring Shropshire's Verges Talk** pavilion 7:00. See page 5 for more information.
- Sun 31 Afternoon teas** St George's Church.

## Future Events

### Post your future events here to avoid clashes

- Aug Wed 3 The Trees Outside Woodlands Talk** Pavilion 7:30. See page 12 for details.
- Wed 10 Probus Club** The White Horse, Pulverbatch 12:45.
- Wed 24 Flower Club** Westbury Village Hall 7:30.
- Sun 21 Garden open for National Garden Scheme** Chris and Bill Neil, Edge Villa, Edge, Yockleton SY5 9PY. Home-made teas. Adm £5 chd free. Plants for sale. 2:00 – 5:00.
- Sat 27 Pontesbury Gardeners Association Annual Show** Public Hall 2:30.
- Sept Sat 10 Mood Indigo in concert** Pontesbury Public Hall 7:15 onwards. See page 8 for more information.
- Sun 11 Walk for Parkinson's Shrewsbury** 11:00 start. See page 9 for details.
- Wed 14 Probus Club** The White Horse, Pulverbatch 12:45.
- Fri 23 – Sun 25 Harvest and Flower Festival** St George's Church.
- Wed 28 Flower Club** Westbury Village Hall 7:30.



Community  
Good  
Neighbours  
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

## News

Good Neighbours Pontesbury & Rea Valley recently delivered food, generously donated from local people into the Co-op Pontesbury food basket to Minsterley Nursery for distribution to local families.



All donations are always gratefully received via the Co-op Pontesbury, please continue to support our local community and its residents during these difficult times.

## Club 100

Tracey Lewis	£30.00
Howard Booth	£25.00
Fraser Brown	£20.00
Karen Buckley	£15.00
Bernie Rodenhurst	£10.00
<b>Jubilee Winner</b>	
Kelly Leighton	£25.00

If you would like to be in with the chance of winning one of these cash prizes and have yet to join Club 100, please contact Sharon Davies or you can contact us via email, Facebook, or our general telephone number listed below.

We have cash prizes of £30, £25, £20, £15 and £10 up for grabs!

Each draw will be made on the 1st of each month and winners will be contacted via the telephone and advertised on our Facebook page, 'Community Good Neighbours Pontesbury' and here in the Parish Magazine the following month.

secretary@goodneighbourspontesbury.org.uk or our website:  
www.goodneighbourspontesbury.org.uk  
Telephone: 07944 891 953

You can also contact us via Facebook, search 'Good Neighbours Pontesbury' and add us as a friend or 'Community Good Neighbours - Pontesbury and Rea Valley' to join our group page.

*Continued from page 14*

### Phishing and Scam Texts

Forward any Phishing or suspicious emails to: [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) Scam texts can be forwarded to 7726 – (this spells "SPAM" telephone keypad)

Do you want to know more about Fraud?

Fraud Safety Webinar: 10am, 21 July – [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/305513437917](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/305513437917)

Fraud Safety Webinar: 7pm, 24 August – [www.eventbrite.com/e/330607876057](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/330607876057)

Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a banking scam and report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk).

For further information visit:  
<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>  
<https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/>

West Mercia Police

# Pontesbury



July 2022

## Newsletter

Issue no. 288

## Jubilee Jollity!!!

What a Day!!! How fabulous was that? Despite the dreary summer's day, fabulous crowds lined the streets of Pontesbury to cheer on the float revellers. From wonderful classic vehicles, to dancing floats and scouts on bikes, runners and, of course, the Queen in a vintage Rolls Royce. Thank you also to the Admiral's View Alpacas for taking part and bringing the eclectic parade to a culmination on the Mary Webb School field – see some of photos of the carnival below and on page 3.

Thank you Habberley Hillbillies, Brit Awards by The Plough Inn, 100 years of Hignett's of Pontesbury, the Pontesbury Players, 1st Rea Valley Scouts, Pontesbury Runners – all the classic vehicle drivers and owners and WW2



to Pontesbury Parish Council for coordinating the events, and a bigger thank you to you all for taking part – three cheers all round!!!

*Continued on page 3*

military vehicles, The Plough Garage for driving the Queen, the Alpacas and to all the volunteers and people who lined the streets cheering!

Apart from the weather, what was not to love about the Pontesbury Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. A big thank you



## Rea Valley Food Bank

Life is tough right now and many people are struggling with the rising costs of fuel and food.

Given the very real need, various members of our local community, led by representatives from each of the churches, have got together to form the Rea Valley Food Bank – a food bank which will serve Pontesbury, Minsterley, and the surrounding villages.

Would you be interested in supporting this venture?

To find out what is involved and how you can help, we invite you to come to a special meeting being held at Pontesbury Baptist Church, Chapel Street, on Monday, 11 July at 7 PM.

Karen Williams from Food Bank Plus in Shrewsbury will be the main speaker.

*Mike Wells*

**As always, there will be no Newsletter in August.**

## Help keep our Post Office open

Connections has been open to the village for over 30 years, selling primarily DIY and Hardware, pet supplies, gifts cards and stationery with the Post Office being a welcome addition in 2014 and Aunty Nellie's Café shortly after that.

We are proud to be a key part of the community and one of the few retail outlets and Post Offices still open in the local area and want to ensure that we are able to keep our valuable service available to everyone. However, over the last few years, and particularly during the pandemic, people's buying needs and patterns have changed dramatically, making retail harder to sustain and forcing us to review our product offering.

From July 2022, we will no longer sell DIY and gardening products and will instead focus on a small selection of gifts, greeting cards, gift wrap, helium balloons, stationery (predominantly for mailing) and pet supplies in addition to keeping the items we stock from local artists.

We will be operating from the lower floor only and will be undertaking some renovation works in June to expand Aunty Nellie's Café and convert the top floor of the building into a retail/office/workshop rental space. This space can very much be tailored to whoever may wish to rent it, so please do contact us on 01743 790600 or [info@connections5.co.uk](mailto:info@connections5.co.uk) if this is something which may be of interest.

Thank you again for your continued support and custom, and please help us to keep this local community Post Office and retail outlet open.

*Louise and Tom Summers*

*Connections* **POST OFFICE**



Closing date for copy for the **Sept** edition is **Aug 10<sup>th</sup>** (please include a contact phone number)  
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Advertisers – See inside for details of how to place your ad.



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## Getting support in Pontesbury area

**Community Good Neighbours, Pontesbury and Rea Valley**  
Tel: 07944 891953

**Pontesbury Community and Care Co-ordinator**  
h.tazewell@nhs.net

**Coronavirus Helpline**  
0345 678 9028

### General

**Get in touch with a local Good Neighbour for a friendly chat, small errands and support to stay active and connected within the community.**

**Assistance for Pontesbury patients of all ages in need of help, support and advice by signposting to other useful services.**

### Covid-19

Shropshire Council helpline for all non-health COVID related enquiries.

### Food

**Shrewsbury Food Hub**  
Shrewsburyfoodhub.org.uk

Surplus food share tables across Shrewsbury

**Shrewsbury Food Bank**  
01743 343336

Food parcels, debt advice, returning to work, digital inclusion, lifeskills. Referral needed.

**Local Support & Prevention Fund**  
0345 678 9078

### Money, Utilities

Council helpline which can help with essential living costs such as food, housing and bills.

**Citizens Advice Shropshire**  
0344 499 1100  
Universal  
Credit Helpline 0800 144 8444

Confidential advice and help to solve problems with debt, benefits, housing, legal matters & employment.  
Need help claiming Universal Credit? Call their dedicated Help to Claim helpline.

**Keep Shropshire Warm**  
0800 112 3743

Advice and grants for people struggling with heating and energy bills

**Shropshire Council Housing Support** 0345 678 9005

### Housing

Support on all housing matters particularly rentals and homelessness.

**Sevenside Housing**  
0300 300 0059

Housing association. Advisors may also be able to help with debt, employment and benefits.

**NHS Referrals & Advice Line**  
0800 196 4501

**Mental Health, Drugs & Alcohol**  
For local mental health services

**MIND helpline**  
01743 368647

Mental health support

**Shropshire Recovery Partnership**  
01743 294700

Drugs and alcohol support

**Shropshire Rural Support**  
0300 123 2825

Mental health support for farmers and the rural community

**Samaritans**  
116 123

Free 24/7 helpline

**Shropshire Domestic Abuse Helpline**  
0300 303 1191

### Families and Relationships

Support for anyone suffering from domestic violence

**West Mercia Women's Aid** 0800 783 1359

24hr helpline for women and children suffering from domestic violence.

**Crossroads Together**  
01743 341995

Wide range of support for unpaid carers.

**Age UK Shropshire Telford and Wrekin**  
01743 233123

Confidential advice for older people, their families and carers.

### Top tips for using apps

- Avoid downloading fake apps by using only the official store for your device's operating system. Even then, read reviews and choose with care, as some rogue apps sometimes make their way into app stores.

- Read terms and conditions when downloading apps to understand aspects like data sharing and in-app payments.

- Consider the permissions you grant for apps to access your location, photos, camera, contacts or other functions or data.

- Check app settings to determine whether downloading updates and day-to-day data are enabled automatically. If they are, it could make it easier for your data to be intercepted, and may use up your data allowance.

- Observe apps' minimum age ratings, which may vary from store to store. This is important for apps which may be accessed by children.

- Log out of apps – particularly those for banking, shopping or payments – when you've finished using them. This also goes for location-based apps, when you want to protect your whereabouts.

- Always download app updates when prompted. As well as providing new features and better functionality, updates usually contain security fixes.

- Be aware of the data used by apps when you're out and about, including roaming charges abroad. And remember that some apps enable in-app purchases, which can be very attractive to use – especially to children – but at a price.

- Remove apps you haven't used for a while, apart from security apps. If you're disposing of your device by any means, erase all data and apps, also preferably doing a factory re-set.

Source: Get Safe Online

### Reporting Scams

DIAL 159. As publicised in national media, 159 is new emergency hotline has been launched for people to report and check financial scams as they happen.

159 has been set up by Banks and Telephone companies to fight fraud and, whilst it is still a pilot scheme, the majority of banks are now signed up to it.

When should you call 159?

- When someone contacts you claiming they are from your bank

- You receive a call or email asking you to transfer money or make a payment

- You receive a call about any financial matter and it seems suspicious

A potential victim who dials 159 will be automatically connected to their bank's fraud prevention service, thus often saving a long wait on hold.

Anyone who receives a call or message from somebody claiming to be from a trusted organisation and who suggests money should be transferred is urged to hang up.

Then you should either wait for 10 minutes before ringing 159 to ensure the scammer has cleared the line or call immediately from another phone.

Continued on page 16

Continued from page 1

There were so many marvellous and creative scarecrows around the village, from Paddington Bear to a Votes for Women suffragette. Too many to include photographs of all the spectacular scarecrow designs, so here's just one (right).

Also thank you to Leanne and Michelle for organising the Bake-Off, well done to everyone who took part. Prizes sponsored by Allcare. Thank you to Budget Skips, Pontesbury Climate Change Group and Veolia for supplying recycling bins and taking away the event waste.

So many thanks yours for such a brilliant day – which could not have taken place without our sponsors. A special mention to Shropshire Homes who sponsored the hire of the stage, which was a great asset to the day. To the performers: Brian Carrington, Tin Soldiers, Sadie-Beth and Good Grief, wow, thank you for playing despite the weather. To the audience, an even bigger WOW, you were all great, dancing with your brollies – a massive thank you.

Also thanks to Councillor Sharon Davies and team, who were serving your burgers and sausages, supplied by Hignett's and Co-op. The bar was provided by The Plough Inn, thank you again. Thanks to all the stallholders, you were great!

To the Parish Councillors and volunteers who supported the event, another massive thank you – we could not have put on this event without your valuable support.

Just a BIG thank you to everyone!!!

Nicola Young, Deputy Parish Clerk

## Earls Hill Painting Exhibition

Hanging day for this exhibition to celebrate the Hill will be on Tuesday, 12 July. Please bring work to the meeting room in the Pavilion between 10 and 11am. Please ensure work is ready for showing and hanging, framed, or at least tidy, and strung. I advise artists to insure their own work.

Children are invited to bring in drawings and paintings of the hill for display, and there will be a painting and drawing workshop for them on Saturday, 9 July, 10am – 12.30pm.

Details from Gill Scriven 01743 790430 gillscriven@yahoo.co.uk

Gill Scriven

## Repair Café

On Saturday 9th July,  
Pontesbury will be holding its first Repair Café

Venue: St George's Church Pontesbury.

Time: 10am to 2pm.

Please bring your broken treasures along as early as possible.

We'd love to help you bring items back into use and reduce landfill. It may be something precious to you that you don't want to throw away, let's see if we can get it working again. Clothing, ornaments, toys, garden tools, broken treasures. We're willing to have a go, some will be fixed some may not be possible to fix . . . let's see how many smiles we can create for the items we do fix.

Yes it is a Repair CAFÉ so refreshments will be available, too. Fancy a coffee and cake while you wait? Why not? – we all love a treat. You might simply fancy coming for a coffee and cake to meet someone and see what we're doing. You'll be warmly welcome. We have some wonderful volunteers willing to fix things for you and an opportunity for donations.

You might love fixing things yourself and would love to help others. If so please contact Di Carrington by email: dianneflp@gmail.com.

Maybe see you there.

From the Repair Café Volunteer Team

## JUST ONE THING.....to help save the planet

### Tip No. 5 Don't fill your kettle too full

Consider how much water you actually need when filling the kettle. If you overfill when boiling the kettle to make a couple of cups of tea you are wasting electricity. It is complicated to work out but if you use double the amount of water needed to make 2 cups of tea then the extra electricity used could cost you at least an extra £ 47 per year [ref: Tameside MBC]. If you do boil too much water please use the excess- say for washing up, as leaving the boiled water there will cause limescale to form and make your kettle less efficient.



Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group





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Please note, I don't have MS Publisher so will be unable to read ads sent in this way. Ed.


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[Tommyholding@gmail.com](mailto:Tommyholding@gmail.com)





**Community Good Neighbours**  
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

## Can we help you?

If you are feeling isolated from the community, lonely or just wanting to meet new friends in your area, Community Good Neighbours can help you reconnect with like-minded people in the local area. We can help you in any setting you will feel safe and comfortable in, be it one of our monthly coffee mornings, a small gathering, a garden, or even just regular weekly telephone calls.

Our team of friendly local volunteers are also able to help you if you are unable to collect prescriptions from the Dispensary at the Doctors or Lunts Pharmacy. They can also assist you by delivering your groceries, especially via the 'Click and Collect' service at the Co-op Pontesbury, this service ensures that no money has to exchange hands and deliveries can be left at a safe distance on your doorstep if you are unable to collect yourself.

If you think you or someone you know may benefit from our support, call 07944 891 953 and leave your name and number and we will get back to you.

You can also contact us via Facebook, search Good Neighbours Pontesbury to add us a friend or 'Community Good Neighbours - Pontesbury and Rea Valley' to join our group.  
Website: [www.goodneighbourspontesbury.org.uk](http://www.goodneighbourspontesbury.org.uk)  
Email: [help@goodneighbourspontesbury.org.uk](mailto:help@goodneighbourspontesbury.org.uk)  
Telephone: 07944 891 953

Sue - Secretary for Community Good Neighbours

A Talk by Nick Rowles from  
Shropshire Council

THE TREES  
OUTSIDE WOODLANDS  
PROJECT IN SHROPSHIRE

Developing innovative and sustainable new ways to  
increase tree cover to address both the climate and  
ecological emergencies.

The Pavilion, Pontesbury  
Wednesday August 3rd at 7.30pm



## Pontesbury & District Gardeners' Association

Our 79th Annual Show will be on Saturday 27 August and Schedules are now available at the Trading Post and various shops in the village; a copy can be e-mailed if requested from [robedixon@btopenworld.com](mailto:robedixon@btopenworld.com). The flower arranging section (Floral Art) has been revamped with the help of the West Shropshire Flower Club so we are hoping that we will see more entries this year.

There is a photographic competition as part of the Art Section. To give everyone a time to seek out suitable subjects the four topics for this year are: Something related to Royalty; A Red Rose; Anything Silver/Platinum; My Bicycle.

The prints should have a maximum size of 7x5"/18x13 cm, and be unframed. Entries can be made any time at the Trading Post and entry forms, and schedules for the rest of the Show will be available during the summer.


At the Trading Post we have re-stocked with multi-purpose potting compost so are able to keep our special price for three bags. In addition we have a good stock of bird and butterfly netting to help protect your fruit and veg crops, plus the canes to help support them.

The Trading Post, in Station Road, is open every Saturday from 9.30 to 12 noon.

Rob Dixon





## SHROPSHIRE LOVE NATURE FESTIVAL

### Restoring Shropshire's Verges



An illustrated talk by  
Janet Cobb  
Thursday 28th July at 7pm

The Pavilion, Pontesbury. £2.  
Bookings: Liz: 01743 790698/07553313012

## Fraud Bulletin: Top Tips for Using Mobile Devices and Apps Safely

For most of us, our mobile phones and tablets are the gateway to our online world. They make it easy for us to do anything we can do on a computer and much, much more, thanks to go-anywhere connectivity and our choice from thousands of apps.

However, as with a computer, you need to set your devices up correctly and take care when going online, to avoid becoming a victim of cybercrime.

The size and convenience of your mobile devices also bring risks. Their loss or theft would be at best, a hassle, but if someone gained access to your financial or other confidential information via your devices or their apps, you could become a victim of fraud or identity theft ... or both.

*Top tips for using your mobile devices*

- Update software and apps when prompted, including operating systems. These often contain security updates.

- Download security apps on all your mobile devices, including Apple devices.

- Always protect your mobile devices with a PIN or password, even if they come with biometric protection.

- Review your device settings regularly to ensure your privacy is protected.

- Set your devices to back up automatically to protect confidential or irreplaceable files or other information from loss.

- Wi-Fi hotspots should be avoided for confidential communications or transactions, as there's no guarantee that they're secured. Use a VPN instead, use

## Make the most of life, join our u3a

A worldwide organisation which helps retired and semi-retired people to come together and learn for fun:

- 20 plus interest groups in our local u3a; something for everyone
- start at any level
- a warm welcome
- meetings are in person or by zoom, depending on the group
- new groups are formed when sufficient members express interest



## learn, laugh, live

Contact  
Peter Traves  
[ptraves50@gmail.com](mailto:ptraves50@gmail.com)  
01743 790028

[u3asites.org.uk/pontesbury-reavalley](http://u3asites.org.uk/pontesbury-reavalley)



your data or wait until you get back to your secure Wi-Fi.

- Think before you click: clicking on email attachments or links in emails and social media posts could infect your devices with various types of malware, including ransomware and spyware.

- Giving a caller remote access to your devices could result in malware or fraud. Grant access only to an authorised support person who you have contacted with a problem.

- Keep mobile devices secure in the home and office. The information on them is normally worth a lot more to a criminal than selling on the device itself.
- Never leave mobile devices unattended, including in a café, the gym or your vehicle.

- Keep your device protected when out and about in crowded areas. Mobiles make attractive targets for pickpockets and ride-by thieves.

*Continued on page 14*

## Friends of Pontesbury Library News

The Friends of Pontesbury Library really embraced the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and 'The Reader' was transformed for the occasion into a majestic representation of our monarch, complete with corgi sitting loyally at her golden-shod feet, thanks to the skilled craftsmanship of Sara Robinson, Gill Scriven, Yvonne Davies and June Clare. The coffee morning on Saturday 4th must have been the best attended yet – perhaps due to the attraction of free bacon butties and croissants, and a slice of the delicious Jubilee cake baked by June Tune, but mostly it was a chance to meet up with friends and neighbours, and enjoy the displays of village celebrations from previous Jubilees, and coronation memorabilia, kindly loaned by the Hignett family.

Winners of the June Library Lottery draw were:

1st Prize Maggie Challinor

2nd Prize Anna Danielli

3rd Prize June Tune

Date for your diaries – Saturday 2 July, meet up with friends at our regular coffee morning from 11am onwards, and find out about the Summer Reading Challenge. Also look out for details of an exciting fundraising concert in September with local Jazz singer Val Sinclair. Enjoy your summer reading, and remember there's much more to our library than just books.

*FoPL*

*Thank you to Sara Mansbridge-Robinson, Gill Scriven and Yvonne Davies for creating the Queen and her corgi for the Jubilee celebrations. It made everyone smile!*



*left: FoPL volunteer practices her queenly wave at the coffee morning.*

*Union Jack Jubilee cake*





## Please report any anti-social or other crime incidents by ringing 101



or go online at <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

We would rather hear the same thing 10 times than not at all. Your information helps us to build a clear picture of what is happening locally and the incident reporting shows clearly and statistically the need to maintain a policing team based in The Pavilion. This local knowledge is vital to us responding effectively.

Thank you.

*Monthly message from your local policing team led by PC Simon Lewis*

## Parish Council meeting: June

At June's Council meeting, held at Cruckton Village Hall, Councillors co-opted a new councillor for the Cruckton Ward. The new councillor for Cruckton is Adrian Windows who has lived locally for over 25 years and is very active with local groups and causes such as Rea Valley Probus and Friends of Pontesbury Library. A warm welcome to Cllr Windows. (contact details can be found on the parish council website – [www.pontesburyparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.pontesburyparishcouncil.org.uk))

Councillors were keen to say a big thank you to everyone who helped to make the Platinum Jubilee event such a success led very ably by Cllr Sharon Davies and Nicola Young (Deputy Clerk). Councillors have received many positive comments and thank yous from local residents and we hope you will agree that it was a wonderful event to bring the community together after a difficult couple of years.

June is also the month when the finance and governance documents are signed and sent off to the External Auditors. This external scrutiny ensures that the council is following laws and regulations designed to make the actions of the council accountable to local residents, open and transparent.

Councillors also discussed their response to two consultations, one concerning the Shropshire Council Library Service strategy and the other the Shropshire Council draft Housing Allocation Policy.

The next parish council meeting will be held on Monday 11 July, 7.30pm at Habberley Village Hall.

The next Planning Committee meeting will be held on Monday 4 July 2022 at 6.30pm at the Pavilion. Please contact Deputy Clerk [deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:deputy@pontesburypc.org.uk) if you would like to attend and/or raise any issues.

If you wish to comment on a planning application please use the Shropshire Council planning portal at <https://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/> Or pass your comments through Cllr A Hodges at [ahodges@pontesburypc.org.uk](mailto:ahodges@pontesburypc.org.uk). All new planning applications for the area are listed on the parish council website.

*Debbie Marais, Parish Clerk*



## The Pavilion Celebrates Carer's Week 2022

On Friday 10 June a Pontesbury Carer's Week event was held in the Pavilion. Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK. It also helps people who don't think of themselves as having caring responsibilities to identify as carers and access much-needed support.

The campaign is brought to life by thousands of individuals and organisations who come together to provide support for carers, run activities, highlight the vital role carers play in our communities and draw attention to just how important caring is. Pontesbury Parish Council, working with Shropshire Council Carer's Team, Age UK and the Alzheimer's Society organised a day of activities for carers, including djembe drumming, hand-massage, information on stress relief techniques as well as a lunch and that all-important cuppa! (See right.)

Dan Lewis Fitness provided a fun session of chair-based exercises, just to give a taster and show that you can keep fit from your own home.

Stallholders from Keep Shropshire Warm, Barnabas Debt Advice, Pontesbury Good Neighbour Scheme, Community Care Coordinator, Shropshire Wildlife Trust and Shropshire Council Carer's Team were all on hand to listen, provide advice for carers and their loved ones.

Thank yous must go to Pontesbury WI for serving the refreshments throughout the event, to Hignett's for supplying lunch, to the Co-op for contributing tea, coffee, sugar and milk and to the Good Neighbours Scheme for those wonderful cakes.

Carers need to be recognised for the difficulties they are experiencing, respected for all they are doing, provided with information, and given the support they need to care safely. So during Carers Week, we came together to make caring Visible, Valued and Supported.

Carers Week 2022 followed an extraordinary two and a half years for unpaid carers, who have faced unprecedented pressures throughout the pandemic.

You can find out about local support groups and services available in Shropshire by contacting Shropshire Council Carer's Team. They can also tell you what rights you have. For example, by arranging a carer's assessment, you can explore what your needs are and what different types of support are available, from emotional assistance to practical help – such as support with care workers in the home.

The Pavilion hosts a Dementia Support Café on alternate Wednesday from 11.30am to 1pm and Dan Lewis Fitness runs chair-based fitness sessions on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Make contact with the Pavilion or Community Care Coordinator to find out more.

Many of the Carers Week supporter charities provide more guidance, including Carers Trust, who have a network of local services providing support to carers. They also have a grants programme that can provide one off payments for support. [www.carersweek.org/about-carers-week/information-for-carers/](http://www.carersweek.org/about-carers-week/information-for-carers/)

*Nicola Young, Deputy Parish Clerk*



## Shropshire Larder: how to keep yourself fed

Visit [shropshirelarder.org.uk](http://shropshirelarder.org.uk)

Shropshire Larder ([shropshirelarder.org.uk](http://shropshirelarder.org.uk)) is the most comprehensive directory of services for people living in Shropshire on a low budget. It has information on how to access a foodbank or community food project, and how to eat well on a budget. It also covers how to get support with benefits, housing, and debt. Please help us make sure this info

is reaching everyone who needs it.

Please follow and share. Facebook: ShropshireLarder and @ShropFoodPov Twitter: @ShropLarder and @ShropFoodPov

Sign up to our newsletter to keep up to date on the situation and the support available.

## Support available

If you are in need of some help with food please either contact the Community Good Neighbour's Scheme (see details on page 12) or Shrewsbury Foodbank who offer a wide range of support including help with food.

The FOOD BANK AT BARNABAS IS OPEN:

Monday, Tuesday and Friday (not open on Bank Holidays)  
9.30am - 12pm

01743 343336 / 0742 174 5857. <https://www.barnabascommunityprojects.org/shrewsburyfoodbank> also lists other support available, such as help with cooking, budgeting and employment.

<https://www.shropshirelarder.org.uk/> also lists support available to you.

Anyone worried about their bills or staying warm at home can call Marches Energy Agency on 0800 112 3743 or email [advice@mea.org.uk](mailto:advice@mea.org.uk)

**Barnabas**  
money advice

Money Problems?  
Talk to someone today!

FREE Debt Advice  
**Appointments Only**  
Friday mornings 10.00 - 13.00  
at Pontesbury Library (SY5 0RF)

To book an appointment:  
Call: 0750 766 3251  
Email: [barnabasmoneyadvice@gmail.com](mailto:barnabasmoneyadvice@gmail.com)

**FREE**

## Pontesbury WI

Pontesbury Women's Institute met on Monday, 13 June for our Jubilee lunch. The Hall was decorated by the committee with Jubilee Bunting the order of the day. Lena Rowson WI Secretary had organised the Jubilee Meal which was most enjoyable. Rose and Joy did a great job as hostesses.

The WI members were entertained by a visit from her Majesty the Queen ( Steve Thomas a local entertainer). The Queen judged the table decorations which had been a WI competition. First place went to Lena Rowson. 2nd



and 3rd place went to Maxine Pittaway . Maxine also organised a Jubilee Quiz with first place going to Barbara Raybould. The raffle was won by Dorothy Petrie. Everyone had a fantastic time enjoying getting dressed up for this special event. Our President thanked everyone for making the day so special.

It has been a very busy month for the WI – The WI had a stall at the Pontesbury Jubilee Carnival Party. Maxine Pittaway and Shona Wood ran the stall which raised considerable funds for the WI. At the Jubilee lunch the President thanked them both for their hard work on a very wet day.

Pontesbury WI served the refreshments at The Carers Event at the Library on June 10. Our thanks to the following WI members who were glad to help on the day: Irene Windows, Barbara Raybould, Sandra Grey, Mary Crowther, Joan Rogers, Audrey Read, Pat Norton, Joan Morris, Jean Drury, Shona Wood and Maxine Pittaway. Pontesbury WI enjoys helping the local community and were pleased to support this event.

Our next WI meeting will be held on the 11th of July at 2 o'clock. Sue Brooks will be hosting a WI afternoon tea at her home on July 21. The event will take place in her beautiful garden.

If you would like to join the WI new members are most welcome. We meet at Pontesbury Public Hall. Please contact Irene Windows President on 791903 for further information.

*Maxine Pittaway, Events Organiser*



### Pontesbury Volunteers attend thank you garden party

Sharon Davies and Helen Tivnen were nominated by Pontesbury Parish Council to attend a garden party hosted by Shropshire Lord Lieutenant, Mrs Anna Turner JP.

The garden party was held in Orleton Hall Gardens, Wellington on 8th June 2022 to celebrate Volunteers Week, praising the many acts of community spirit and kindness which were demonstrated by Shropshire volunteers during the pandemic.

For setting up the Good Neighbours Scheme, Sharon and Helen were nominated because they helped keep isolated members of the parish going during the pandemic, picking up prescriptions and shopping, as well as chatting on the phone. Representing all the volunteers at the garden party, Sharon said "Helen and I were very pleased to accept the invitation on behalf of all the COVID volunteers in the Rea Valley area. It was a beautiful setting and we enjoyed our afternoon meeting up with other volunteers".

The Community Good Neighbours Scheme is still helping people, so, if you would like to volunteer OR you (or someone you know) would like a service, please leave a message on: **07944 891953**



## Flower Club

At the May meeting Jackie Jones presented her demonstration titled Village Curios, taking us through interesting things related to villages across the country.

Our next meeting will be on 27 July, featuring a workshop of foam free arranging

All meetings at Westbury Village Hall at 7.30. Annual membership £30, Visitors £7 (deducted off membership))

Julia Brion



Images from Carer's Week. (See left for article)



Stress relief exercises



Extend exercises



Djembe drumming

## Thank you

The family of Richard Killick would like to thank their many friends and neighbours for all their loving support over the past few weeks. Your many messages and cards meant so much and it was lovely to see so many of you at the funeral. Grateful thanks from Rosemary, Lesley, Andrew, Michelle and Jeanette.

Lesley Holder

## Friends of St George's Churchyard

We at St George's are looking to develop a "Friends of St George's Churchyard" group, which will consist of representatives of the Church Council, parish councillors and members of the wider community.

We are looking for people who care about the churchyard (often referred to as Pontesbury Cemetery) and want to see it continue to be a valued resource for the whole community: a place of peace and tranquillity where visitors can come to mourn loved ones and enjoy a beautiful, green space in the centre of our increasingly busy village.

The group would take responsibility for the recruitment of volunteers, devising a maintenance schedule and possibly organising fundraising social events. It would liaise with the parish council and PCC as necessary.

Anyone interested in joining the group or finding out more should contact Greg Smith at rectorpontstip@gmail.com

Greg Smith

## Minsterley Church Treasurer

Bruce Norsworthy, who has served Holy Trinity with great loyalty, has decided to step down as Treasurer due to ongoing health concerns.

The Church Council is therefore looking for a volunteer to take on this role, possibly from the wider community. The role requires some familiarity with accounting and an ability to use computerised spreadsheets.

Full training will be provided, with Bruce kindly offering the opportunity to shadow the role as long as required.

If you would like to know more about this role, please speak to Bruce or contact Greg at rectorpontstip@gmail.com

David Young

## Pontesbury Baptist Church

[www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk](http://www.pontesburybaptist.co.uk)

Our church is open twice every Sunday – at 10:30am and 6:30pm – and you're very welcome to attend our services. No need to book in advance – come as you are! Every sermon is also available to watch for free via our website or on our YouTube channel.

### Services for July:

Date: Morning service 10:30 Evening service 6:30  
3 Rev Richard Birch Rev Richard Birch  
10 Mike Wells Robert Morris  
17 Mike Wells Mike Wells  
24 Mike Wells Rob Jack  
31 Mike Wells TBC

## Congregational Church

[www.pontesburycongs.com](http://www.pontesburycongs.com)

Sunday Services for July, at 10:00.

3 Led by congregation  
10 Kevin Pickering  
17 Jan Hocking  
24 Rev. Debbie Martin  
31 Joint service with Marton and Minsterley at Pontesbury led by Yvonne Campbell, General Secretary of the Congregational Federation.

## Methodist Church

The services for July are as follows:

3rd at 10.45am with Mrs Helen Salmon  
10th at 10.45am with Rev Richard Hall to include Holy Communion.  
17th at 10.45am with Church Members  
24th at 10.45am with Church Members  
31st TBA

## St George's Church

[www.st-george.org.uk](http://www.st-george.org.uk)

Services for July:

3 10.30am Morning Worship  
5 2.30pm Tea Service  
10 10.30am Holy Communion  
17 10.30am Holy Communion  
24 10.30am Holy Communion  
31 10.30am Group Service at Hope



## Cost of living help

Increases in the cost of food, fuel and utilities is affecting many households in Shropshire and we know that it is a worrying time for everyone.

To help, we have brought together a number of useful links, tips and pointers on where and how people can find help across the county

([www.shropshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help/](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/cost-of-living-help/)).

This will help people see the range of services we and our partner organisations have on offer. This includes a benefits calculator so that people can check whether they're getting the benefits they're entitled to, advice about energy bills and reducing energy costs from the Marches Energy Agency, as well as information about how to manage debt from Citizens Advice.

We also recently announced that every household in council tax bands A to D will receive £150 rebate towards rising energy costs, to be paid from April 2022.

To find out more about this, please have a look on our website ([Energy bills rebate](#) and newsroom ([Direct debit energy rebate](#))).

We hope that you find our webpage helpful, and we will of course continue to add to this as more help becomes available.

If you can, please share this information so that we can help as many people as possible.

## News from the Library

It's July! So that means the schools break up and the library launches the Summer Reading Challenge. Children between 5 and 13 can sign up from 9 July for this year's 'Gadgeteers' themed read. The Reading Agency are teaming up with the Science Museum Group for a very special science themed Challenge that will inspire children to use their imagination and creativity. Reading 6 books and collecting stickers on the way! For more information check out [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk). We have a cartoon gadgeteer workshop on the 1st August and are planning other events, look out for posters in the library.

The grown ups aren't being left out either. Continuing with the Platinum jubilee celebrations the 'BIG JUBILEE READ' continues through out the summer. A collection of books has been put together marking the Queen's 70 years of service. There is a leaflet in the library listing the great reads by celebrated authors from all over the Commonwealth. Live and zoom discussion about these books are planned for the autumn.

Rhyme Time will be on 14 July at 2pm.

The Library Owl

## Pontesbury Library Opening hours

Monday	10am - 1pm	
Tuesday	10am - 1pm	2pm - 5pm
Wednesday	Closed	
Thursday		2pm - 5pm
Friday	Closed	
Saturday	10am - 1pm	
Sunday	Closed	

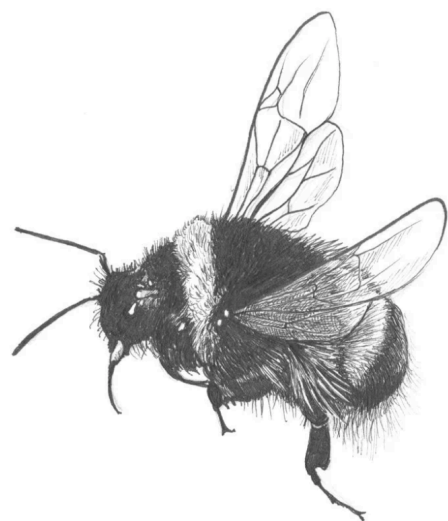




## Notes from the Stiperstones

I am surprised that I have seen so many bumblebees this year, as I don't feel like it has been a very warm year so far. Although the met office has stated that it was the fifth warmest May on record in the UK, I personally think it has been a cold spring on the hill this year.

Whatever the weather the bumblebees are very active. The Stiperstones is home to a number of bumble bee species, the heath bumblebee and the similar looking garden bumblebee, the larger buff-tailed bumblebee and the white-tailed bumblebee are also tricky to tell apart and the red-tailed bumblebee and the bilberry bumblebee both have orange red bottoms although the bilberry bumblebee has two lemon yellow stripes on its thorax, however even this can sometimes be confused with the early bumblebee.



Undoubtably our special bumblebee on the hill is the bilberry or mountain bumblebee. This declining species is associated with upland sites with lots of bilberry, however it relies on other nectar sources later in the year and will use hay meadows and gardens from late May until the heather starts blooming. With experience the bilberry bumblebee is easily identified and the Stepping Stones

project has started a volunteer led project to monitor this important indicator species for the health of the Shropshire Hills. If you would like to help out you can contact [bumblebeesonthemynd@gmail.com](mailto:bumblebeesonthemynd@gmail.com) who are running training courses, surveys and collating records for the Stiperstones and Long Mynd area.

In addition to the true bumblebees there are also a number of cuckoo bumblebees on the hill. These are a fascinating group of bees that have evolved alongside the better-known social bumblebees. Female cuckoo bumblebees emerge from their winter hibernation about six weeks after their hosts and often resemble them in colouring. However, in true 'Game of Thrones' style these females work their way into established bumblebee nests where they wait to get the scent of the nest before killing off the resident queen and taking her place. The female cuckoo bumblebee will then lay its own eggs which will be tended by the nests active worker bees until they hatch and fly off to do it all over again.

Our events this year include "Scything with a View", a week of drop in scything at different places on and off the Stiperstones 18-22 July finishing with a scything competition on Friday, 22 July, and a bat and moth evening at the Knolls carpark on Saturday the 13th of August starting at 8.30pm. for more information see our Facebook page or email: [stiperstones.events@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:stiperstones.events@naturalengland.org.uk).

Simon Cooter and the Natural England staff at Rigmores oak

## 60 years of Pontesford and Earls Hill Reserve

Saturday, 16 July

Celebrate with  
Shropshire Wildlife Trust and the  
Friends of the Hill

Meet 10am at the Earls Hill car park for guided walks, followed by a BYO picnic lunch in the gardens Earlsdale House from 12:30 (with thanks to Howard and Anne Thorne)

Arrive by foot if you can.  
The events are free, but booking via the SWT website is necessary to manage numbers and car parking.

There will be a range of guided walks to suit young families, mixed abilities and varied interests.

Learn about the history of the hill and our plans for the future.

Book your places at <https://www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/events/SWTat60-Earls-Hill-Guided-Walk>

## 'Mood Indigo' ☆

with  
**Val Sinclair**  
\*in concert\*

Pontesbury Public Hall  
Saturday 10 September 2022  
7.15 for 7.30 start

*This 7-piece band brings an eclectic mix of heart-felt blues, a drizzle of jazz, rock, ballads and more. A feast of musicianship, vocals, fun, sophistication and glitz*

Tickets £10 available from 10 July

Eventbrite.com

Hignett's  
Connections  
Pontesbury Library

Bar - FOPL raffle

supporting Friends of Pontesbury Library

Val Sinclair is an international vocalist, and lives in Pontesbury



Saturday 9th July 12pm – 3pm

Pontesbury Public Hall

A sale for all children and baby items

If you would like to sell your goods it will cost £5 per table. This will cover the hall hire fees. Limited tables available so please book early to avoid disappointment.

We can't sell without buyers so please tell your friends and family and pop in!

Refreshments available on the day

Please contact Charlie on 07484632082 or via the facebook advert to book your table

Great opportunity to buy and sell. See you there!

## Pontesbury Women's Club

Tuesday, 12 July

'Georgia'

Gill Castle tells us of her adventures.

There is no meeting in August.

Meetings will resume on 13 September with a talk by Nick Hignett

PWC meets at 7.30pm on second Tuesday of the month at Pontesbury Public Hall.

Visitors and New Members are always welcome.

## Walk for Parkinson's – Shrewsbury

11am, Sunday 11 September

Walk along the River Severn and cross the beautiful Porthill Suspension Footbridge returning through the historic suburb of Belle Vue.

Every step you take brings us closer to a cure.

- Start and finish: University Centre Shrewsbury, Frankwell Quay SY3 8HQ
- Routes: 1.5 miles or 5 miles
- We will not be accepting any sign ups on the day of the event
- Sign up fee £12 for adults, £6 for under 18s
- Sponsorship £50 min suggested, please
- 1.5 route is accessible for pushchair or wheelchair users, with some help
- Dogs are welcome but must be kept on a lead at all times
- Registration for this walk closes: Sunday 4 September

To sign up:

<https://events.parkinsons.org.uk/event/walk-parkinsons-shrewsbury/home>  
Email: [walk@parkinsons.org.uk](mailto:walk@parkinsons.org.uk)  
or call 0800 138 6593

## Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group

**Recycling information event**  
with experts from Shropshire Council and Veolia  
Pontesbury Pavilion  
20 July, 4pm – 6.30pm



With Tea and Coffee available provided by Pontesbury Co-op.

Ask questions about what really happens to your recycling.

Find out how you can help make recycling more efficient.

With practical examples including the new Plastic and Glass bins.

Discover what small changes you can make to help reduce climate change.



Pontesbury Climate Emergency Action Group



Community  
Good  
Neighbours  
Pontesbury & Rea Valley District

## Upcoming Events

July 2022

Coffee Morning - 8th July – 10:30am – 12:00pm - Plough Inn

Country & Western Afternoon - 12th July – 3:00pm – 5:00pm - Plough Inn

August 2022

Coffee Morning – 12th August – 10:30am – 12:00pm - Plough Inn

September 2022

Coffee Morning – 9th September – 10:30am – 12:00pm - Plough Inn

All are welcome to come along.

For all upcoming events please view our Facebook page for all updates.